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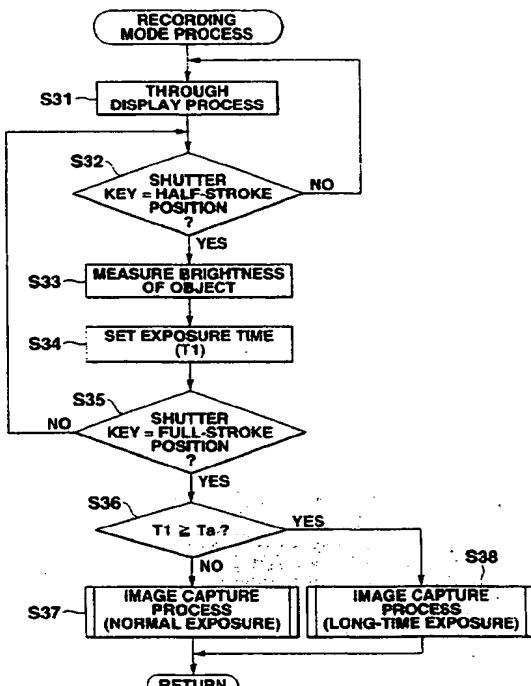
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(54) **Electronic still camera capable of removing noise component in image data and signal processing method thereof**

(57) Upon depression of a shutter key of a key input unit (26), a sensed image (DATA1) is captured by exposing a CCD (14) for exposure time T1 with a mechanical shutter (12) opened, and a dark frame image (DATA2) is captured by exposing the CCD (14) for exposure time Ta with the mechanical shutter (12) closed. A correction value corresponding to exposure time T1 is then determined by looking up a correction data table (TBL) stored in a storage area (27a) of a data memory (27), and DATA2 is corrected using the determined correction value. By subtracting the corrected DATA2 from DATA1, a dark output component contained in DATA1 is removed.

FIG.8





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)			
H04N			
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
THE HAGUE	8 August 2002	Didierlaurent, P	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

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